Varsfite and divers others of the fleet, and for a great leak that \z*s* sprung in the *V'auntguard,* and principally for her Majesty's traight command that they should stay forth but fhe months n this voyage Whereupon the Lords Generals shaped their course for England

%th August THE SCARCITY OF CORN

In spite of the orders formerly made the price of grain is still increased, and it is most evident that the mgrossmg of corn and f orebtalhng of markets by covetous men in buying great quantities of corn out of the market at farmers* houses hath been the cause of the dearth lately grown The high sheriffs and justices of peace are required, even for conscience' sake, to have regard hereunto and speedily to deal severely with ovyaers of corn that have any plenty thereof, and not only by assessment to compel them upon pain of imprisonment to bring weekly to the markets some proportions, but to overrule them in their prices so as the same may not be sold at any dearer rates than, at the least, these last two months And if any shall murmur and repine against these orders in such a time of necessity, he shall be committed to prison until he conform

Moreo\ er the Council think it not amiss that the Archbishop of Canterbury should take order for the preachers generally in their sermons and exhortations to admonish farmers and owners of corn of this unchristian kind of seeking gain, recommending to the richer sort keeping of hospitality for relief of the poor and avoiding of excess And therefore that housekeepers of wealth would be contented with a more sober diet and fewer dishes of meat in this time of dearth, and to forbear to have suppers in their houses on Wednesdays, Fridays and fasting days Gentlemen and others of meaner sort might

forbear the keeping of hounds These and other charitable deeds would be earnestly commended by the preachers and ministers $_{y}$ and special order taken that benefked clergy should reside upon their benefices to give good example to others in using hospitality

To the like effect the Lord Mayor of London is advised to use all care to provide corn for the relief of the City, and that the citizens and especially the City Companies should use a more moderate and spare diet, leaving great f eastings and superfluous